

AGN. NO.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA
AND MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

August 10, 2010

On August 3, 2010, this Board approved a motion directing an independent audit of the efficacy of the recently-implemented safety enhancements by the Department of Children and Family Services and its organizational structure, managerial performance and accountability; as well as ways to strengthen the County's overall child protection safety net by blending funding and integrating services of all of the County Departments that come into contact with abused and neglected children and their families. It is estimated that the audit will be completed within 90 days. While the motion directed the independent auditing firm to look at **ALL** County Departments, it did not address the role that the Children's Special Investigative Unit also plays in strengthening the child protection safety net.

Approximately one year ago, the Board appointed a Lead Attorney to establish and oversee the Children's Special Investigations Unit. The unit was charged with reviewing child fatalities and serious incidents; and to provide recommendations to the

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Ridley-Thomas _____

Yaroslavsky _____

Knabe _____

Antonovich _____

Molina _____

Board for systemic and legislative changes that might prevent future such recurrences. Since its inception, the unit has issued several reports, however, the qualitative impact of these reports and the recommendations therein have yet to be determined. Accordingly, inclusion of this unit within the independent audit is critical to ensure a comprehensive assessment of our child protection safety net. The Board must ensure that the resources dedicated to this function are working to meet the goals and expectations that are set forth.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE, that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors direct :

- (1) The Chief Executive Officer to include, within the independent audit of the Child Protection Safety Net, a review and analysis of the role, responsibilities and impact of Children's Special Investigations Unit;
- (2) The Board Executive Officer to refrain from hiring any additional staff for this unit until the audit is completed;
- (3) Ensure that the results of this review coincide with the completion of the audit within 90 days.

MMA